

Dewan's reply.—Such invidious insinuations and distinctions are unbecoming and should not be made here. A suggestion by another member to exclude Legal Practitioners on the ground that they fomented quarrels and disputes was wisely omitted from the list and the present suggestion should also have been similarly omitted.

Subject No. 68.
A person to be
member for one con-
stituency only.

Summary of discussion.—One member should represent one constituency and not more. If this was the rule we could have a better representation here.

Dewan's reply.—The evil is not apparent. The point is of little importance. We cannot well prevent the same person being sent up by two constituencies. Such a person of course would obtain no additional privileges.

Subject No. 69.
Appointments to the
Mysore Civil Service.

Summary of discussion.—The scheme for appointing persons to the Mysore Civil Service partly by Competitive Examinations and partly by nomination should be abolished, or materially amended in favor of local men. The standard of examination prescribed only opens a door for foreigners to come in. Mysoreans are indeed not expressly excluded, but the standard is so high that it practically shuts them out as they have no chance of success in competition with outsiders in an examination open to candidates from all parts of India. This is evident from the fact that out of the 23 applicants who sought admission to the second examination held in July this year, there were only two Mysoreans. Their admission was sanctioned but neither of them appeared before the Medical Board.

Till now two examinations have been held under this scheme, one in 1892 and the other in 1894, and the four that were selected as having headed the lists are all foreigners. The speaker did not mean that incompetent men should be taken into the service. What he meant was that the principle should be to make local men competent by educating them up to the standard required. The Dewan had indeed done much already in this way for the people's good by instituting a system of scholarships for training local men to meet the Medical, Engineering and Agricultural requirements of the country, and the speaker only meant further action was required in this direction.

The Rules require half the appointments to be given to passed candidates and half to nominees. No consideration is shown to members of distinguished families who once did much good to the country.

Dewan.—Not so.

There are Muniffs and Amildars working hard and well. The scheme under discussion, by excluding them, acts as a damper on them. They lose heart. If encouraged, they would turn out still better work. The service recruited at the rate of two men from outside every year would soon be entirely or chiefly stocked by them and there would be no room for local

men. The appointment of any one class of people to all places to the exclusion of other classes is not only bad in principle, but would also prove inconvenient. Various classes and sects of people should be represented in the service, all however being Mysoreans. Let competency be the rule, but let the appointments be distributed amongst the various classes. The Census Report has a record of the number in each class and is a good help to Government to arrange for the good of the different communities. Big people in well to do condition can and do get their sons graduated. In some instances the poor also have sons who are graduates. There are many classes who are poor, Brahmin and non-Brahmin. Selection to appointments should be from among them all and not confined to the sons of the rich.

If the Civil Service Examination scheme is to be continued, a few suggestions may not be out of place.

Knowledge of History is very useful and it should be made a compulsory subject.

A knowledge of the Kanarese language is very essential and should be prescribed also, as a familiarity with that language would give a great facility for the prompt disposal of official work by the future Assistant Commissioner. If Kanarese forms part of the Examination; a Mysore candidate will earn some more marks. It is true that Kanarese has to be studied by a successful candidate after he is appointed, but that is not sufficient. It should form one of the compulsory subjects of the Competitive Examination itself. If this prevents people from other parts of India competing so much the better for the Mysorean.

Men who are not graduates of any University are also found to be efficient and equally good and better in some instances. Experience has its value and large experience ought not to go unrecognized. Otherwise, most Amildars can have no promotion. The age limit, namely 25 years, operates injuriously. The Examination should be confined to Mysoreans and those of other countries domiciled in Mysore, as the case is elsewhere. The subjects of Native States cannot appear for Examinations for the Provincial Services in British India. They are not allowed, not being the subjects of the Queen.

Bombay is strict in excluding them for even the Pleaders Examination. It is said the Bombay High Court allows the Mysoreans to practice in its Courts. It is true only where our men have passed the B. L. Degree Examination.

Men who do their work well and with efficiency and who combine large experience should not be shut out. Their interests must be guarded also.

Dewan's reply.—The matter is very simple. But there is great misapprehension in the matter partly from interested motives and partly from ignorance. The Civil Service Scheme was adopted by us in the interests of the service in spite of our desire to confine our selections to the higher service to the material available in the country. We want specially good material for the public service, high attainments, ability and intelligence; and Examinations are instituted under the scheme with a view to selecting a few who possess these in the highest degree, and for every man that gets into the service by examination His Highness selects one by nomination and both are placed in the same list. We do not exclude local men, nor ignore the claims of local men, whether these claims are based on family, service or other considerations. As a matter of fact, while, since the introduction of the scheme, four men have been taken by means of a Competitive Examination into a particular Schedule of Assistant Commissioners and three others by special nomination of His Highness into the same Schedule, no less than 12 have been taken into another Schedule of Assistant Commissioners by selection from the lower grades of the Public Service. So far no one has reasonable ground for any complaint. The advantage and the necessity of introducing new blood into the service were recognized years ago by the Chief Commissioners of past times, and the Attaché system was introduced and was in force for several years. Under this system, several were introduced from outside the country, and several were also selected from within the country for special training and advancement. Several of these now hold high office in the State. These men were all selected by the Chief Commissioners of the day. Selection in this way, particularly of outsiders, is liable now to be misinterpreted and criticised on the score of partiality. Instead of selection we have a system of Competitive Examinations open to all, and of nomination from local men of good family and education by selection of His Highness. It is not our intention to take in an unlimited number in this way. We hold the Examinations only when necessary, and probably we shall not need another Examination next year. The infusion of new blood into the service is important and essential for the well-being of the service. Otherwise, it must deteriorate in the long run as indeed it is already showing signs of doing. We shall be most happy to see all castes and classes represented in the service, and we shall be very glad to have even Pariahs, if competent men are forthcoming. But the fact is that here, as in other parts of India, the Brahmin element predominates and always comes foremost under any competitive system whether by examination or otherwise. It is in view of

this fact that we have been careful to select Musalmans and other non-Brahmins whenever they have shown sufficient aptitude. In such cases we are content with a lower standard of ability. We are also encouraging local men by scholarships and otherwise to qualify themselves for special Departments of the public service. It will be a great mistake to restrict ourselves entirely to local men as cliques of relations and partisans thereby come into existence. We already experience great difficulty whenever we have to transfer Officers from one Taluk or District to another. The Mysore Civil Service Scheme allows of picked young men being brought in and trained both from outside and from within the State. Talent is rare and it is our duty to attract it to our service, so as to relieve to some extent the dead monotony of a service composed of mediocres. Those that we take are always required to qualify themselves in Kanarese and pass an Examination before they are confirmed and promoted.

Subject No. 70.

Standing Committee
of the D. R. A.

Note.—When the list of subjects of general interest had been gone through on 15th October, Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya alluded to a resolution adopted at a meeting of certain representatives held at Mysore by which a standing committee of Representative Members was to be constituted for conduct of work during the year on behalf of the Assembly. Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya wanted to know whether Government would recognize the committee as a standing committee of the Representative Assembly. The Dewan said that some members had already complained to him against the committee as not being representative of the Assembly and had protested that the proceedings of the committee did not meet with their approval. The Dewan read and commented upon a Resolution of the committee to the effect that the absence of Moffusil members should not invalidate the proceedings of the committee and he added, unless the committee derived its appointment, existence and authority from the Assembly as a body, the Government could not recognize it for any useful purpose, and that so far there had been no such appointment from the members.

There were voices from various parts of the Assembly indicating disapproval of the committee and representing that it had been constituted without general consultation, and even under some misapprehension.

Mr. Graham Anderson said he understood that the committee was duly constituted, for he had been informed that the members of the Assembly had chosen the men for the committee, and that there were 50 odd members when he first attended it. He added that neither himself nor the committee wished to usurp the functions of the Assembly. Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya followed with an expla-